

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

NETWORK MANAGING
SOLUTIONS, LLC

Plaintiff,

V.

AT&T, INC and AT&T MOBILITY LLC,

Defendants.

C.A. No. 16-295-RGA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NETWORK MANAGING
SOLUTIONS, LLC

Plaintiff,

V.

SPRINT CORPORATION and SPRINT
SPECTRUM L.P.,

Defendants.

C.A. No. 16-296-RGA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NETWORK MANAGING
SOLUTIONS, LLC

Plaintiff,

V.

T-MOBILE USA, INC.,

Defendant.

C.A. No. 16-297-RGA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NETWORK MANAGING
SOLUTIONS, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATE CELLULAR
CORPORATION,

Defendant.

) C.A. No. 16-298-RGA

) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NETWORK MANAGING
SOLUTIONS, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON
WIRELESS,

Defendants.

) C.A. No. 16-299-RGA

) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

~~PROPOSED~~ **SCHEDULING ORDER**

This 4th day of ~~April~~ ^{May}, 2017, the Court having conducted an initial Rule 16 (b) scheduling conference pursuant to Local Rule 16.1(b) and the Court's April 3, 2017 Order Setting Rule 16(b) Conference ("Rule 16(b) Conference Order") (see e.g., Case No. 16-cv- 295, DI. 24), and the parties – Network Managing Solutions, LLC ("NMS" or "Plaintiff") and AT&T Inc.¹, AT&T Mobility LLC, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, United States Cellular Corporation, T-Mobile USA, Inc., Sprint Corporation, and Sprint Spectrum LP (collectively

¹ AT&T Inc. is and always has been only a holding company. As a holding company, AT&T Inc. conducts no business with the public and is not the proper entity for the conduct alleged in this case. AT&T Inc. does not design, make, use, sell, offer for sale or import any products. AT&T Inc. is, legally and factually, a separate entity that is distinct from its subsidiaries and affiliates. The proper corporate defendant in this case should be AT&T Mobility LLC. However, AT&T Inc. joins this Order because it currently is a defendant in this case.

RGA

“Defendants”) – having determined after discussion that these centralized matters cannot be resolved at this juncture by settlement, voluntary mediation, or binding arbitration;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Rule 26(a)(1) Initial Disclosures and E-Discovery Default Standard. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the parties shall make their initial disclosures pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1) within **thirty (30)** days of the date of this Order.
2. Joinder of Other Parties and Amendment of Pleadings. All motions to join other parties, and to amend or supplement the pleadings, shall be filed on or before **May 18, 2018**.
3. Discovery.
 - a. Discovery Cut Off. All fact discovery in this case shall be initiated so that it will be completed on or before **June 1, 2018**.
 - b. Document Production. Document production shall be substantially complete by **February 15, 2018**.
 - c. Requests for Admission. A maximum of 10 requests for admission are permitted for each side. Requests for admission relating to the authenticity of documents and/or public availability of prior art references shall not count toward the 10 request limit.
 - d. Interrogatories. A maximum of 10 common interrogatories, including contention interrogatories, are permitted for each side, plus 15 additional interrogatories to and from each individual defendant.
 - e. Depositions.
 - i. Limitation on Hours for Deposition Discovery. Each party² is limited to a total of 35 hours to complete party depositions (*i.e.*, 30(b)(1) and 30(b)(6)

² “Party” is defined as the Plaintiff and the Defendant/Defendants in each separate action.

depositions), with each party deposition counting no less than 2.5 hours per deposition. A party witness shall not be required to sit for more than 14 cumulative hours of depositions (including in his or her individual and corporate capacity). Additionally, any party witness may be served with separate deposition notices covering different topics at different times, but a party shall not be required to designate a corporate representative regarding substantially the same topic more than once. Non-party depositions shall not exceed 90 hours per side³ (this is exclusive of expert depositions, which are addressed below in section 10(c)).

ii. Location of Depositions. Any party or representative (officer, director, or managing agent) of a party filing a civil action in this district court must ordinarily be required, upon request, to submit to a deposition at a place designated within this district. Exceptions to this general rule may be made by order of the Court or by agreement of the parties. A defendant who becomes a counterclaimant, cross-claimant, or third-party plaintiff shall be considered as having filed an action in this Court for the purpose of this provision. For non-filing parties, depositions will be taken at the witness's ordinary place of business unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

f. Discovery Matters and Disputes Relating to Protective Orders. Should counsel find they are unable to resolve a discovery matter or a dispute relating to a protective order, the parties involved in the discovery matter or protective order dispute shall contact the Court's Case Manager to schedule an in-person conference/argument. Unless otherwise ordered, by no later than forty-eight hours prior to the conference/argument, the party seeking relief shall file with the Court a letter, not to exceed three pages, outlining the issues in dispute and its position on those issues. By no later than twenty-four hours prior to the conference/argument,

³ "Side" is defined as Plaintiff on one side and all Defendants in all the above captioned cases on the other.

any party opposing the application for relief may file a letter, not to exceed three pages, outlining that party's reasons for its opposition. Should any document(s) be filed under seal, a courtesy copy of the sealed document(s) must be provided to the Court within one hour of e-filing the document(s).

If a discovery-related motion is filed without leave of the Court, it will be denied without prejudice to the moving party's right to bring the dispute to the Court through the discovery matters procedures set forth in this Order.

4. Application to Court for Protective Order. Should counsel find it will be necessary to apply to the Court for a protective order specifying terms and conditions for the disclosure of confidential information, counsel should confer and attempt to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order and submit it to the Court within **thirty (30) days** from the date of this Order. Should counsel be unable to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order, counsel must follow the provisions of Paragraph 3(g) above.

Any proposed protective order must include the following paragraph:

Other Proceedings. By entering this order and limiting the disclosure of information in this case, the Court does not intend to preclude another court from finding that information may be relevant and subject to disclosure in another case. Any person or party subject to this order who becomes subject to a motion to disclose another party's information designated "confidential" [the parties should list any other level of designation, such as "highly confidential," which may be provided for in the protective order] pursuant to this order shall promptly notify that party of the motion so that the party may have an opportunity to appear and be heard on whether that information should be disclosed.

5. Papers Filed Under Seal. When filing papers under seal, counsel shall deliver to the Clerk an original and one copy of the papers. A redacted version of any sealed document shall be filed electronically within seven days of the filing of the sealed document.

6. Courtesy Copies. The parties shall provide to the Court two courtesy copies of all briefs and one courtesy copy of any other document filed in support of any briefs (i.e., appendices, exhibits, declarations, affidavits etc.). This provision also applies to papers filed under seal.

7. Claim Construction Issue Identification. On or before **December 7, 2017** the parties shall exchange a list of those claim term(s)/phrase(s) that they believe need construction and their proposed constructions for those claim term(s)/phrase(s). This document (or documents) will not be filed with the Court. Subsequent to exchanging that list, the parties will meet and confer to prepare a Joint Claim Construction Chart to be filed no later than **December 21, 2017**. The Joint Claim Construction Chart, in Word or WordPerfect format, shall be e-mailed simultaneously with filing to rga_civil@ded.uscourts.gov. The parties' Joint Claim Construction Chart should identify for the Court the term(s)/phrase(s) of the claim(s) in issue, and should include each party's proposed construction of the disputed claim language with citation(s) only to the intrinsic evidence in support of their respective proposed constructions. A copy of the patent(s) in issue as well as those portions of the intrinsic record relied upon shall be submitted with this Joint Claim Construction Chart. In this joint submission, the parties shall not provide argument.

8. Claim Construction Briefing. The Plaintiff shall serve, but not file, its opening brief, not to exceed 20 pages, on **January 10, 2018**. The Defendant shall serve, but not file, its answering brief, not to exceed 30 pages, on **February 9, 2018**. The Plaintiff shall serve, but not file, its reply brief, not to exceed 20 pages, on **February 23, 2018**. The Defendant shall serve, but not file, its sur-reply brief, not to exceed 10 pages, on **March 9, 2018**. No later than **March 16, 2018**, the parties shall file a Joint Claim Construction Brief. The parties shall copy and paste

their unfiled briefs into one brief, with their positions on each claim term in sequential order, in substantially the form below.

JOINT CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF

I. Agreed-upon Constructions

II. Disputed Constructions

A. [TERM 1]

1. Plaintiffs Opening Position
2. Defendant's Answering Position
3. Plaintiffs Reply Position
4. Defendant's Sur-Reply Position

B. [TERM 2]

1. Plaintiffs Opening Position
2. Defendant's Answering Position
3. Plaintiffs Reply Position
4. Defendant's Sur-Reply Position

9. Hearing on Claim Construction. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. on **April 17, 2018**, the Court will hear argument on claim construction. Absent prior approval of the Court (which, if it is sought, must be done so by joint letter submission no later than the date on which answering claim construction briefs are due), the parties shall not present testimony at the argument, and the argument shall not exceed a total of three hours.

10. Disclosure of Expert Testimony.

a. Expert Reports. For the party who has the initial burden of proof on the subject matter, the initial Federal Rule 26(a)(2) disclosure of expert testimony is due on or before **September 5, 2018**. The supplemental disclosure to contradict or rebut evidence on the same matter identified by another party is due on or before **October 17, 2018**. Reply expert reports from the party with the initial burden of proof are due on or before **November 14, 2018**. No other expert reports will be permitted without either the consent of all parties or leave of the

Court. Along with the submissions of the expert reports, the parties shall advise of the dates and times of their experts' availability for deposition. Depositions of experts shall be completed on or before **December 19, 2018**.

b. Objections to Expert Testimony. To the extent any objection to expert testimony is made pursuant to the principles announced in *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharm., Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), as incorporated in Federal Rule of Evidence 702, it shall be made by motion no later than the deadline for dispositive motions set forth herein, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Briefing on such motions is subject to the page limits set out in connection with briefing of case dispositive motions.

c. Expert Depositions. For each expert witness, each party may take up to seven (7) hours of deposition testimony for each report submitted by the expert on a separate subject (e.g., if an expert opines on infringement and validity, fourteen (14) hours of deposition testimony would be permitted).

11. Case Dispositive Motions. All case dispositive motions, an opening brief, and affidavits, if any, in support of the motion shall be served and filed on or before **January 11, 2019**. Response briefs to any case dispositive motions shall be filed within 30-days and reply briefs in support of an opening brief shall be filed within 15-days of the filing of any response brief. No case dispositive motion under Rule 56 may be filed more than ten days before the above date without leave of the Court.

12. Applications by Motion. Except as otherwise specified herein, any application to the Court shall be by written motion. Any non-dispositive motion should contain the statement required by Local Rule 7.1.1.

13. Pretrial Conference. The Court will hold a Rule 16(e) final pretrial conference in Court with counsel beginning at 8:30 a.m. as follows:

Trial 1: AT&T: **May 17, 2019.**

Trial 2: Sprint: **June 7, 2019.**

Trial 3: T-Mobile: **August 9, 2019.**

Trial 4: U.S. Cellular: **August 30, 2019.**

Trial 5: Verizon: **October 4, 2019.**

The parties shall file a joint proposed final pretrial order in compliance with Local Rule 16.3(d) no later than 5 p.m. on the third business day before the date of the final pretrial conference. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties shall comply with the timeframes set forth in Local Rule 16.3(d) for the preparation of the joint proposed final pretrial order.

14. Motions in Limine. Motions *in limine* shall not be separately filed. All *in limine* requests and responses thereto shall be set forth in the proposed pretrial order. Each party shall be limited to three *in limine* requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court. The *in limine* request and any response shall contain the authorities relied upon; each *in limine* request may be supported by a maximum of three pages of argument and may be opposed by a maximum of three pages of argument, and the party making the *in limine* request may add a maximum of one additional page in reply in support of its request. If more than one party is supporting or opposing an *in limine* request, such support or opposition shall be combined in a single three page submission (and, if the moving party, a single one page reply). No separate briefing shall be submitted on *in limine* requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court.

15. Jury Instructions, Voir Dire, and Special Verdict Forms. Where a case is to be tried to a jury, pursuant to Local Rules 47.1(a)(2) and 51.1 the parties should file (i) proposed

voir dire, (ii) preliminary jury instructions, (iii) final jury instructions, and (iv) special verdict forms no later than 5 p.m. on the third business day before the date of the final pretrial conference. The parties shall submit simultaneously with filing each of the foregoing four documents in Word or WordPerfect format to rga_civil@ded.uscourts.gov.

16. Trial. Plaintiff filed separate lawsuits against Defendants in the District of Delaware, which have been consolidated by the Court for pretrial purposes; however, the actions are not consolidated for purposes of trial. Accordingly, the trial will proceed as follows:

Trial 1: AT&T: **June 3, 2019**.

Trial 2: Sprint: **June 24, 2019**.

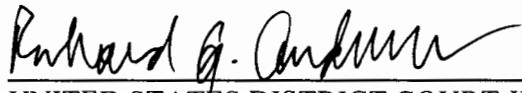
Trial 3: T-Mobile: **August 26, 2019**.

Trial 4: U.S. Cellular: **September 16, 2019**.

Trial 5: Verizon: **October 21, 2019**.

Each trial is scheduled for a 5-day jury trial beginning at 9:30 a.m., with the subsequent trial days beginning at 9:30 a.m. Until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberations, the jury will be excused each day at 4:30 p.m. The trials will be timed, as counsel will be allocated a total number of hours in which to present their respective cases.

17. ADR Process. This matter is referred to a magistrate judge to explore the possibility of alternative dispute resolution.


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE